

THE SHELTON CHRONICLE

a newsletter for faculty and staff

CELEBRATING BLACK FUTURE - ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Three Alabama entrepreneurs will tell their individual success stories on Monday, February 1, as part of Shelton State Community College's Black History Month celebration. The forum, which is planned as one of Shelton's Millennium Evenings, is entitled "Celebrating Black Future - Economic Empowerment for the New Millennium."

The forum will be held at 7 p.m. in the Alabama Power Recital Hall. A reception will follow the program in the National Bank of Commerce Art Gallery.

Speakers for the evening are Mrs. Martha Hawkins, owner of Martha's Place in Montgomery, Al.; Tim Lewis, President of T. A. Lewis and Associates of Tuscaloosa and Birmingham; Dinah Walton, owner of two Buffalo Phil's Restaurant franchises in Tuscaloosa; and Alabama State Senator Charles Steele. Moderator for the evening is Louise Lewis, assistant director, C.A. Fredd Campus at Shelton State.

For Martha Hawkins, the idea of owning her own restaurant had been her dream since she was 12 years old. As a

child, she would watch her own mother prepare home cooked meals. Her dream included having the restaurant in a large old house with a homelike atmosphere.

Hawkins married as a teenager and later had four sons to support. Working as a domestic to support herself and her sons, she met attorney Calvin Pryone of Montgomery who offered her a house, rent free, until she got on her feet. The amazing thing, according to Hawkins, is that the house he offered was just like the house she had dreamed about as a child.

However, when she went to the banks and financial institutions, she was turned down for a loan because of her lack of business experience and collateral. Finally, she received a \$2,500 loan from the Black Women's Leadership and Economic Development project, a community group who had heard of Martha's struggle for financial support for her business. Martha's Place opened in 1988. With the success of the restaurant, Hawkins was able to get off public assistance and move out of public housing.

Today her children are grown and successful. Ms. Hawkins' story is one of perseverance, faith, and courage.

Dinah Walton is a native of Greene County, graduating from Eutaw High School in 1973. For almost 20 years,

she worked for the University of Alabama. However, her dream was always to own her own business. She looked at the hot wings industry and saw that there seemed to be a lot of interest in this type of food in Tuscaloosa.

After reading a number of articles on entrepreneurship, she went to Phillip Weaver, the owner of Buffalo Phil's. Walton trained under Weaver at his local store for six months. Finally, on February 10, 1995, she opened her first Buffalo Phil's Wings on Skyland Boulevard. In 1997, she opened her second restaurant south of town off Highway 69.

Her hard work and determination paid off with the success of these restaurants. Mrs. Walton has two daughters and two small grandchildren.

Tim Lewis is president of T. A. Lewis and Associates. Lewis lives in Tuscaloosa but owns a telecommunications firm in Birmingham. His company is on the cutting edge of technology as he deals with teleconferencing and other forms of telecommunications.

According to Charles Storey, who is serving as chair of the event, this program at Shelton State is a little different from most Black History Month events. "By that, I mean that most programs held during Black History

CONTENTS

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Month come from an African American historical perspective. For this program, however, we are thinking of the future. The speakers who will be at Shelton will share their thoughts and experiences with the audience," Storey said.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 391-2644 or 391-2221.

EXHIBIT OF VINTAGE MOTORCYCLES AT SHELTON STATE

An exhibit of vintage motorcycles will be on display February 3 - 4 at Shelton State Community College. The exhibit, which is part of an extensive collection of antique motorcycles, is owned by the Vintage Motor Sports Museum in Birmingham, the largest motorcycle museum in North or South America. This exhibit has traveled worldwide.

Ten selected motorcycles dating from 1910 until the present have been selected for the display at Shelton State. This representative collection may be viewed in the Atrium of the college's Martin Campus on Wednesday, February 3, from 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. and on Thursday, February 4, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. For additional information, call 391-2476 or

391-2631.

LAKEISHA STEELE CROWNED 1999 MISS SHELTON STATE

LaKeisha Steele of Tuscaloosa was crowned the 1999 Miss Shelton State during the college's recent pageant. LaKeisha, a talented dancer, will represent the college in the annual Miss Alabama pageant that will be held in Birmingham June 16 - 19.

LaKeisha is a freshman at Shelton and is a 1998 graduate of Central High School in Tuscaloosa. She is majoring in broadcast journalism at the college. Her platform issue is cancer awareness. She is the daughter of Alabama State Senator and Mrs. Charles Steele, Jr.

LaKeisha is available for public appearances that will help prepare her for the Miss Alabama Pageant. For information or scheduling of Miss Shelton State, call 349-5215 or 750-2761.

FREE WEBSITE AVAILABLE

Medscape.com is the web's largest collection of free, full-text, peer reviewed clinical medical articles. In addition to these articles, Medscape provides the world's only unrestricted free access to MED-LINE, AIDS-LINE, AND TOXLINE. Additional medical information and news is also available. Although there is no charge for accessing this site, users are required to establish a membership with user ID and password.

To locate Medscape, simply go to <http://www.medscape.com> or enter "medscape" in the Yahoo! Search Box. Be sure to choose the listing that is for health professional and interested consumers.

FACES 'N PLACES

*A workshop will be held in Shelton's Automotive Technology department on February 23. The two hour seminar will

be held at 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and will focus on engine sealing science, gasket materials and design technology. The seminar will be presented by ROL Manufacturing of America, Inc. which is located in Ohio. **Jerry Handley** is the instructor for the automotive program.

*All of Shelton's visioning groups have completed the process. Through these "listening sessions," the college will prepare a **Vision Statement for Shelton State Community College 1999-2010**.

* The recent potluck dinner for international students from the UA, Stillman, and Shelton along with Friendship families and the Tuscaloosa International Friends was a tremendous success. Over 150 people were at Shelton for an evening of fun and good food.

***CONGRATULATIONS** to the three new members of the Shelton State Foundation. Elected to represent the college are **Lyda Black**, technical programs; **Fran Turner**, academic programs, and **Teresa Sprowl**, Freddie Campus.

LANDSCAPE PROJECTS BEGIN

LANDSCAPE WORK HAS BEGUN IN THE FRONT OF THE MARTIN CAMPUS TO INSTALL AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM, PEDESTRIAN WALK-WAYS, SOD AND TREES. THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE FLOWER BEDS AROUND THE BUILDING AND CLUSTERS OF TREES ALONG THE ROADWAYS AND POND. WORK SHOULD BEGIN SOON ON THE GATEWAYS AND FENCE AT COLLEGE BLVD. AND FIRE COLLEGE DRIVE. THE PROJECT IS FUNDED THROUGH A FEDERAL GRANT (ISTEA), AND SHELTON TURF MANAGEMENT INSTRUCTOR, **DENNIS CRIM**, IS SUPERVISING THE PROJECT.